GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4867
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2016
Cancer by Contaminated Water
Patel Shri Devji Mansingram

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fake urea used extensively in various parts of the country including Rajasthan contaminates water resulting in cancer and other diseases in humans;

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the number of persons suffering from cancer due to the consumption of such contaminated water in the country including Rajasthan; and

(d) the other necessary measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a): As informed by the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, contamination of drinking water due to use of spurious urea has not been reported by any State including Rajasthan.
(b): Does not arise.
(c): As informed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the information regarding the number of patients diagnosed with cancer due to consumption of water contaminated with urea is not available.
(d): While Health is a State subject, Government of India is implementing a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). The objectives of NPCDCS, being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) for interventions upto the district level includes awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. The focus of the programme is on Breast, Cervical and Oral Cancer.
Operational guidelines have been released for prevention, control and screening of Diabetes, Hypertension and common Cancer (Cervix, Breast and Oral) to the States for implementation. The screening includes screening for risk factors of these diseases. Such screening will also generate awareness on risk factors of these diseases. Suspected cases are to be referred for confirmatory diagnosis by various tests including histo-pathological biopsy. Electronic and Print media is utilized for health awareness for cancer.
Treatment of Cancer is free or subsidized in the Government Healthcare Delivery System.
The Government of India under "Strengthening of Tertiary Care of Cancer" Scheme is also assisting to establish/strengthen 20 State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and 50 Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country.